

ADELAIDE INSTITUTE

PO Box 3300
Adelaide 5067
Australia
Mob: 61+401692057
Email: info@adelaideinstitute.org
Web: <http://www.adelaideinstitute.org>

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A View from the Hitler Fan Club?

On 12 March 2012 Australian Broadcasting Corporation Radio news stated that the Australian Workers Union called for government protection of Australia's oil refineries that face closure because of political decisions made in the name of the free market ideology – the level playing field that Australia fully embraces but no-one else! – thereby making Australia dependent on petrol imports.

Only last year the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that it had after decades of fuel imports become self-sufficient. What's going on? An island continent like Australia is now to rely on petrol imports? What's going on? The principle of AUTARKY eliminates such nonsense policies, and the German National Socialists followed this principle in all matters, especially in its financial sphere, thereby challenging the Jewish financial nuclear terror weapon that now Iran is also challenging with all its might.

*

In the beginning of a change, the patriot is a scarce man, and brave, and hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot. – Mark Twain

*

Truth emerges in three stages: First it is ridiculed; then it is violently opposed; finally it is accepted as a given. – Arthur Schopenhauer



Adolf Hitler – Happy Birthday 20 April 1889

Peter Hartung and Fredrick Töben display Adolf Hitler's personal flag against the backdrop of Sydney's Harbour Bridge and Opera House.

* Only recently Töben learned that he, an identical twin – and much to the consternation of Nazi-hunters – was part of the scientific twin experimentation conducted during the 1940s by Dr Joseph Mengele and his 'founder effect' discoveries. This directly led to Töben and Hartung unfurling the above flag in Sydney in the name of National Socialism's founder and scientific revolutionary, Adolf Hitler, who legally banned cruelty to animals – kosher slaughter – and initiated the implementation of global nature conservation laws. The world has openly to confront the Hitler phenomenon, which goes far beyond the 'Jews and the Holocaust-Shoah'.*

Has Matthias Chang got it right?

Where is proof of the secret pact between the US and Israel?

**If true, then this is exactly what Jews are all about - so, don't bend to their pressure.
But what about Mordechai Vanunu's revelations?**

Obama's threat that US would attack Iran is all hot air. A bluff!!

By Matthias Chang,

March 07, 2012 20:25 Future Fastforward

In a previous article, I stated categorically that Israel has no nuclear weapons and the lie that she has over 200 nuclear weapons is the most successful propaganda coup ever orchestrated by a state.

Israel is a barking dog and all it does is to bark and bark to intimidate, but fortunately for Israel, the Muslim world, especially those fascist Sunni Muslim states have been so cowardly and intellectually bankrupt that this intimidation has succeeded for five decades in preventing the Palestinians from waging a war of liberation. Saudi Arabia was the key factor in perpetuating this myth of Israel's nuclear might. Saudi Arabia has been using the petro-dollar to bribe and secure allegiance to her agenda.



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanjahu

Anyone attending any OIC Summits can see how all Arab countries are so slavish to Saudi Arabia's petro-dollars. This disease has even infected the PLO and as a result the Palestinians' war of liberation against Israel has been compromised.

US Presidents without exception have been held to ransom by the Zionists on account of the "secret pact" made by President Truman that the US will guarantee the existence of Israel in exchange for the agreement by Israel not to have nuclear weapons, but subject to the right of Israel to acquire the technology to develop nuclear weapons.

If, Israel has nuclear weapons, each succeeding prime minister of Israel would not be in such frenzy and literally terrified at the thought of any Arab / Muslim nation acquiring nuclear weapons. Hence, the continuous demand by Israel on US to attack any Arab nation which poses an existential threat to Israel.

And to ensure that this iron-clad guarantee is never compromised by any US President, the Zionist Lobbies such as AIPAC would orchestrate an "existential threat" against Israel and demand that the US would publicly declare that it would ensure the security of Israel at any costs. And Israel's prime minister of the day would play the assigned role of an "uncontrollable" warmonger so as to extract the maximum political capital from the US President of the day.

This is the ultimate nuclear blackmail and no one has perpetrated such blackmail better than Israel. North Korea has been portrayed as a nuclear threat and uses "nuclear blackmail" to confront the US. This is a lie, a big lie. There is no need for North Korea to use any nuclear threat, though it has nuclear weapons. It is enough for North Korea to threaten to unleash a massive conventional attack on South Korea (thereby ensuring heavy US casualties) to call the US warmongers' bluff.

Thus what is extraordinary is the fact that Israel can use nuclear blackmail without any nuclear weapons to secure her interests and impose on the Arab states her Zionist agenda of a Greater Israel. She has no need for any nuclear weapons when the US is stupid enough to do all the dirty work on her behalf.

One might ask, why would the US readily agree to be the bully for Israel? Simple! The Zionists and Israel's central bank (via the global network of Zionist controlled Too Big To Fail Global Banks) control the entire banking system in America and decides who will be the President of the US. This is the nuclear weapon of Israel, and not the uranium or plutonium nuclear weapons. The financial nuclear weapon of the Zionist is the fiat money system, which in turn is grounded on the petro-dollar system.

When there is a threat to the financial nuclear weapon system, as when oil is no longer traded in US dollars as has been carried out by Iran recently, Iran's nuclear weapon (to trade oil other than with US dollars) must be destroyed. It is not the destruction of Iran's nuclear reactor sites that is the target. Under the veil of a military offensive, the destruction of the entire infrastructure of Iran, the complete devastation of Iran's economy is the ultimate objective. This will ensure that Iran's oil and gas industry is smashed to smithereens. This was what happened to Libya. In the result, Iran's oil would be traded in US dollar.

But one may ask, won't the price of oil skyrocket causing massive inflation as a result of the war? Of

course, and that is precisely the point. But, who gives a shit for massive inflation? I can assure you that it is not the FED and all the central banks of the world. The power elites don't give a shit. The Global Too Big To Fail Banks don't give a shit. This is because a high dollar value for oil means a greater demand for the US\$ toilet paper. The high demand for dollar to purchase the oil would gobble up the toilet paper (digital or otherwise) issued by the FED. Without the artificial / manipulated price increase of the oil, the dollar value would plummet dramatically. What is preventing this from happening is the song and dance routine by Obama and Netanyahu about the so-called Iran's nuclear weapons.

The recent meeting between these two puppets of the Global Financial Puppet Masters is another song and dance. Obama's threat that US would attack Iran is all hot air. A bluff!! The article below published by the Christian Science Monitor is the best evidence of this stupid song and dance by these two idiots.

I have been calling the Muslims the world over to call the Zionist Anglo-American Empire's bluff and to challenge these war criminals to dare attack Iran. Let me say here and now – Israel are cowards and will not attack Iran. She needs the US military to do the dirty work. And the US will not attack Iran on behalf of Israel, because its economy is collapsing and there is no guarantee that even with a barbaric war against Iran, and the consequent massive jump in oil price, that it will be sufficient to prop up the value of the US\$ toilet paper.

This is the dilemma facing the Global Financial Elites and the Zionist Anglo-American War Party. This is the strategic lesson of the Iraq war. Although oil price did spike in the early stages of war, over the course of the campaign, price of oil headed downwards. The same will happen in any military adventure in Iran.

But this time, the attack on Iran will definitely bury the Zionist Anglo-American Empire and hasten its demise by a decade. Israel, US and the UK will become third world countries – I would even assert that they will become failed states.

There will be massive social upheavals the likes of which will shock the entire world. This is the price of the Zionist Anglo-American Empire's hubris.

Obama and Netanyahu, I am calling your bluff, and I am urging the progressive revolutionary forces to call your bluff. I dare you to attack Iran and commit hara kiri!

The article below captures vividly the political song and dance routine of Obama and Netanyahu. What a comedy – better than any Tom & Jerry show!

Obama-Netanyahu crisis meeting: Can leaders overcome lack of trust? Obama hosted Netanyahu at the White House Monday to discuss how to resolve their differences over Iran and its nuclear program. But the lack of trust on both sides is deep.

By Howard LaFranchi – Christian Science Monitor

The two men having lunch in the White House Monday – Barack Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu – have what the American president describes as a “functional” relationship. It's not a very warm word, from a president whose style in any case is not to slap the back of or cozy up to the world leaders he deals with. Mr. Obama is not the type to spontaneously massage another leader's shoulders, as George W. Bush so memorably – and awkwardly – did with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

But Obama's depiction masks only partially the tensions that course through the two leaders' relations. The root problem is a mutual lack of trust. At this meeting the overriding issue is Iran, and the lack of trust goes something like this: Mr. Netanyahu does not trust Obama to abandon soon enough his emphasis on diplomatic measures (including toughened economic sanctions) as a means of compelling Iran to abandon progress towards a nuclear weapon; and Obama does not trust Netanyahu to give sanctions a chance to work, sparing the region what by most accounts would be a devastating military confrontation.

What sanctions? Top five countries buying oil from Iran. But the lack of trust was not born of the two leaders' differing perspectives on Iran. Before Iran the sore spot was the peace process, a topic that – to what should be Netanyahu's relief – will barely figure in Monday's discussions. The problems began at the outset of the Obama administration, when the president startled Netanyahu by pressuring Israel to freeze new settlement construction in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

Obama smoldered when Israel chose a visit by Vice President Biden in 2010 to announce a new round of construction in East Jerusalem.

But a low point came in May 2011 when, during Netanyahu's previous White House visit, the Israeli leader lectured the American president live on television over Obama's plan to relaunch Israeli-Palestinian negotiations by starting with border issues and based on pre-occupation 1967 borders.

The White House was furious. Might the best evidence that Obama is still not over that affront be that no joint press conference was scheduled for today's meeting? White House spokesman Jay Carney is not even holding a daily press briefing Monday, leading one White House correspondent to quip that the Obama team appears to be in “duck and dive” mode.

This being a US presidential election year, Obama can't allow his merely “functional” relations with Netanyahu to color broader US-Israel ties. In his speech Sunday to the influential pro-Israel lobby, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), Obama stated vigorously, “I've got Israel's back,” and he made the case that his administration's stepped-up military aid to Israel and closer intelligence sharing between the two countries is the best evidence that America remains Israel's best friend and holds resolutely to Israel's right to defend itself against any foe.



Image by Hamsayeh.Net

For his part, Netanyahu – who learned from the poor reviews he received upon returning home last May that publicly disrespecting the US president can be politically perilous – had positive words for Obama's AIPAC speech. Speaking on a stop in Canada Sunday before arriving in Washington, Netanyahu said that "perhaps most of all" he appreciated Obama's "declaration that Israel must be capable of defending itself, by itself, against any threat."

Netanyahu repeated those words at the White House Monday, as the two leaders offered brief statements before a gaggle of reporters before moving on to private conversation. Each leader repeated his theme: Obama said that while he believes diplomatic pressure can still work with Iran, his policy is not simply containment of a nuclear Iran, but rejection, by all means that might be necessary, of Iran possessing a nuclear weapon.

Netanyahu thanked Obama for his strong words in his AIPAC speech the night before, but his emphasis was, much like Obama's, not on the two leaders' relationship but on the unshakable ties between their two countries. Noting that the US and Israel face "common enemies," Netanyahu said, "Iran's leaders know that. For them, you are the Great Satan. We're the Little Satan. For them, we are you and you are us," he added, "and you know something Mr. President? At least on that last point, I think they're right."

<http://hamsayeh.net/articles/1664israelsrimeministerforemostblackmailersscaremongersandpapertigersirsaeldefinitely-has-no-nuclear-weapons-html>

- False Flag Alert -

Blaming Assad For NATO Murders

The Kids Are Already Dead, SlainBy NATO Death Squads

A reliable Russian source in Syria warns that al Jazeera is about to launch within hours a major false flag provocation.

Al Jazeera will allege that 17 children have been killed by Assad's forces. These children are already dead, and have been killed by NATO death squads.

The goal is to create an atmosphere of hysteria at the Tunis "Friends of Syria" conference today Friday, which otherwise threatens to be a fiasco due to the boycott by Russia, China, and Lebanon, and due to the fragmented nature of the Syria opposition.

Please spread this story as fast as you can as a highest priority False Flag Alert.

By Webster Tarpley, 24 February 2012 <http://tarpley.net>.

...no wonder the so-called Australian intellectual left and right is morally bankrupt...

Academic defends \$196k grant for Rupert Murdoch polemic

By: [Andrew Crook](#), Wednesday, 7 March 2012/[6 comments](#)

David McKnight has launched a strident defence over claims levelled by the conservative commentariat over the Australian Research Council grant process that helped him publish a searing critique of Rupert Murdoch.

Last week in his *Media Watch Dog* column, The Sydney Institute's Gerard Henderson [took McKnight to task](#) over the funding source for his *Rupert Murdoch : An Investigation of Political Power*, querying how an aspiring author might acquire "such moolah".

"I've written a few books in my lifetime but never had support from the Australian taxpayer," the privately-buttressed Henderson explained, adding the grant total of \$196,947 equated to "\$3 per word".

Andrew Bolt has also been on the case, [blogging on Saturday](#) under the headline: "Three dollars a word from the taxpayer to whack Murdoch".

The questions were prompted by *Weekend Australian* editor [Nick Cater's review](#) of the book, that argued "old Left thinking¹ is apparently being propped up by the taxpayer ... perhaps that's what they meant by cash for clunkers". The savvy Cater also helpfully dredged up a 35-year-old article written by McKnight that criticised the mainstream media's estimates of the Khmer Rouge's death toll.

McKnight told *Crikey* this morning the broadside was a "politically motivated attack on a perfectly normal and respectable process".²

"The award was granted by the then-minister for education Julie Bishop in November 2006. The grant was for a study of the political commentary in media outlets of News Corporation in the UK, USA and Australia. Formally, it was a Discovery Project under the National Competitive Grants Program," he explained.³

"The recent inquiries are under the guise of accountability for taxpayers' funds, but it is clear that they are motivated by hostility to my research conclusions about Rupert Murdoch and News Corporation."

McKnight said he employed five casual research assistants to help with the book and that \$32,000 was sent to UK academic⁴. Brian McNair from Strathclyde University for additional insights.

The details of the ARC Grant outcomes, obtained by *Crikey*, show McKnight received the \$196,647 over five years, over which time he produced the book, four peer-reviewed journal articles, a refereed conference proceeding, the Henry Mayer⁵ Lecture at the University of Queensland, three non-refereed articles in the popular press, a book review and a "considerable number" of interviews and commentary in newspapers and the electronic media, including ABC Radio, AP, AAP, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and CNN Wire. McKnight also said he was in discussions with an Australian filmmaker to use his material.⁶

According to a supplementary word count carried out by *Crikey* this morning, taking into account the fresh information, McKnight has written at least another 30,000 words in journals, articles and speeches in addition to the approximately 65,000 words in the book. The per-word rate is therefore closer to \$2 a word.

Admission into the [National Competitive Grants Program](#) appears to be onerous: according to its website, "funding recommendations are made to the Minister responsible for research by the CEO following independent and extensive competitive peer review by Australian and international experts". Discovery Project applications have about a 20% rate of success.

Henderson lifted a long-running ban on giving *Crikey* quotes to remark: "So what he's now saying is that he's got a running grant to run polemics on Murdoch across journals and travel to Brisbane?"

Henderson, tongue firmly in cheek, says he is seeking government funding for a planned contribution to the *Holy Name Monthly*, a Catholic journal that went out of publication in the 1970s—apparently falling victim to Vatican II. "All I

want to do is get on the gravy train myself," he said. "My ambition in life is to get one of these grants. "I like David ... of all the former supporters of the Khmer Rouge, he's the the one I love the most."

The grants issue received more oxygen yesterday when Robert Manne took to his [Monthly blog](#) to expose a recent approach from *Australian* reporter Ean Higgins' following a Freedom of Information request into two grants of \$60,000 and \$180,000 he received for research into Aboriginal welfare and asylum seekers. Like McKnight, Manne compiled a dossier of the grant outcomes that he said included five books, several journal articles and a number of newspaper and magazine articles.

Manne claimed Higgins had admitted to him that *The Australian* had FoI'd McKnight's ARC grant, but *Crikey* understands those claims are now contested.



Filth Dimension

Posted Wednesday, 7 March 2012 at 2:33 pm | [Permalink](#)

Is the link to Bolts blog really necessary. Where's the soap I need to wash my eyes out?

Gerard's letters come off pretty smarmy. He comes across as a very bitter individual, "apparently".



sickofitall

Posted Wednesday, 7 March 2012 at 2:47 pm | [Permalink](#)

Hold on, 196,000 over five years? 20,000 a year, presumably before tax. Less than an apa scholarship. About, I think, the dole. Would they prefer McKnight go on the dole?



Jobby

Posted Wednesday, 7 March 2012 at 2:51 pm | [Permalink](#)

Henderson having a hissy-fit and calling people communists. Is this even news anymore?



sickofitall

Posted Wednesday, 7 March 2012 at 2:53 pm | [Permalink](#)

And, he spent it on five research assistants, presumably 1 a year... Does poor old Rupert feel he can't take it anymore?



Pete from Sydney

Posted Wednesday, 7 March 2012 at 3:11 pm | [Permalink](#)

I think it's closer to \$40k a year...but why let get in the way of another Murdoch bashing eh?



Fredrick

Posted Wednesday, 7 March 2012 at 6:24 pm |

[Permalink](#)

What a shameful affair this is when so-called educated individuals count their rewards in material terms only. Should the focus not be on whether McKnight actually reveals deep-seated truths about Murdoch's empire?

This whole non-controversy about grants also reveals the poverty of thought of those who still cling to such a dialectic rather than to courageously grasp the nettle and admit it will only be the adoption of the national-international divide that can enable Australia to develop a culture where individuals grow and mature rather than merely remain derivative and a slave to the ideology of hedonistic materialism.

<http://www.crikey.com.au/2012/03/07/academic-defends196kgrantforrupertmurdochpolemic/#comment-188949>

Andrew Bolt

Saturday, March 03, 2012 at 12:04am

Gerard Henderson did enjoy Nick Cater's review of David McKnight's latest book, *Rupert Murdoch : An Investigation of*

Political Power - [especially the bit](#) where Cater reminded readers that McKnight was a one-time member of the Communist Party.

But the smile froze on Henderson's face when he read that McKnight had received a taxpayer-funded handout of \$196,647 to research his anti-Murdoch tome. [Letters followed:](#)

GERARD HENDERSON TO DAVID McKNIGHT - 27 FEBRUARY 2012

David

In the words of the cliché – Say It Ain't So.

I have not bought your Rupert Murdoch book yet. However, I noted in Nick Cater's review in today's "Media" section in The Australian that you received a whopping \$196,647 from the Australian Research Council for this latest tome on the Dirty Digger.

Can this be so? If it is – what did you spend the money on? And how does an aspiring author go about getting such moolah? I've written a few books in my life time but never had support from the Australian taxpayer.

Maybe Nick Cater made this up. Let me know.

Cheers - Gerard Henderson

DAVID McKNIGHT TO GERARD HENDERSON - 28 FEBRUARY 2012

Thanks Gerard.

I hope you don't mind, but I really don't want to get into a back-and-forth exchange of letters on this. If you suspect there is something improper about the research grant, then please contact the Australian Research Council.

If you want more information on the purpose, eligibility and assessment of research grants this can be found on the ARC

website.

Cheers - David McKnight

GERARD HENDERSON TO DAVID McKNIGHT - 1 MARCH 2012

David

That's okay. It's just that I assumed that someone in favour of openness might have provided a brief response concerning the expenditure of taxpayers' money.

I went to the Australian Research Council website to obtain information about the (seemingly) large grant for your recently published polemic on Rupert Murdoch. It contains but one line indicating that \$196,647 was paid to the University of Technology, Sydney for "A study of political commentary in the outlets of a major media corporation". This is hardly transparent.

The reference number is DPO774025 – the same number is referred to in the "Acknowledgements" section of your Rupert Murdoch: An Investigation of Political Power (Allen & Unwin). I never suggested that there was something "improper" about this grant. After all, I am aware that many leftist academics have been funded by the ARC to write leftist books over the years. It's part of what the ARC does, apparently. It's just that \$196,647 seems a lot of money for yet another book on Rupert Murdoch. It works out at around \$815 per page – or \$3 per word. Nice (taxpayer funded) grant – if you can get it.

Best wishes - Gerard

More juicy stuff, as always, on Gerard's [Media Watch Dog](#). Read it before the new media police move in.

http://blogs.news.com.au/heraldsun/andrewbolt/index.php/heraldsun/comments/three_dollars_a_word_from_the_taxpayer_to_whack_murdoch/

Bishop's Holocaust denial conviction overturned - March 1, 2012

A German court has overturned the guilty verdict of Bishop Richard Williamson of the Society of St. Pius X and ordered a new trial for the controversial 71-year old cleric. On 22 Feb 2012 the Nuremberg Regional Court of Appeals threw out the Holocaust denial conviction of Bishop Williamson, finding the trial court had failed to show when and how the bishop's remarks were publicly disseminated. <http://anglicanink.com/article/bishops-holocaust-denial-conviction-overturned>

<http://anglicanink.com/topics/Richard%20Williamson>

German court tosses conviction of Holocaust-denying bishop

February 23, 2012

BERLIN (JTA) -- A German court has set aside a guilty verdict against a Holocaust-denying bishop on a technicality, but the defendant will face justice again, prosecutors say.

The Higher Regional Court of Nuremberg on Wednesday threw out the conviction of British Bishop Richard Williamson, 71, because the lower court had failed to say when and how the offending remarks were broadcast. A new indictment is expected to be ready in five weeks.

Meanwhile, Jewish groups are protesting an unrelated German court decision that appears to downplay the seriousness of Holocaust denial as a crime.

That ruling, which the Federal Constitutional Court handed down in November, overturned hate charges against an unnamed defendant in his 80s who shared printed material that called the Holocaust "a purposeful lie." The court ruled that the defendant was protected under "freedom of opinion" laws, since he had shared his views privately with the proprietor of a bar he frequented.

Ronald Lauder, president of the World Jewish Congress, called the decision "a slap in the face" for Holocaust survivors and their families, providing "hints on how to deny the Holocaust in Germany and escape punishment." And WJC Vice President Charlotte Knobloch, of Munich, said German legislators were "disposing of the ban" against Holocaust denial "through the backdoor."

Lauder and Knobloch called on the court to rethink its decision.

The charges against Williamson stem from an interview he gave in 2008 to the Swedish SVT broadcaster in which he called the murder of Jews in gas chambers during the Holocaust "lies, lies, lies." Williamson, a British resident and member of the radical Catholic Pius Brotherhood sect, also allegedly denied that any Jews were murdered in gas chambers during the Holocaust and insisted that not more than 300,000 European Jews were killed in total. He gave the interview while in Regensburg, Germany. It was broadcast on Swedish TV and also was available on the Internet.

In 2010, the Regensburg court found him guilty of incitement to hate and fined him about \$14,000, a sum that was reduced to about \$9,000 on appeal last July. But the court failed to meet the formal prerequisites for prosecution, the higher court said Wednesday.

Williamson was one of four Pius Brotherhood bishops rehabilitated by Pope Benedict XVI in January 2009 in hopes of healing a rift between conservative and progressive Catholics. The pope said later that he would not have rehabilitated Williamson if he had been aware of his far-right views.

<http://www.ita.org/news/article/2012/02/23/3091815/german-court-throws-out-conviction-of-holocaust-denying-bishop>

Finkelstein media recommendations would poison our democracy

By: David Kemp [The Australian](#) March 06, 2012 12:00AM

THE basic recommendation of the Finkelstein report on media regulation is to establish a new government-funded and appointed regulator to set and control journalistic standards. This fundamentally misunderstands the nature of our democracy.

If such a recommendation had been made at any time in the past 150 years in Australia, it would have been ridiculed.

It is a measure of how confused we have become about the basis of our democracy that such a recommendation can even be made, and by a member of the profession we used to rely on to protect our liberties.

The report is full of approved rhetoric about the need for accountability and transparency in a democracy. The problem is: accountability to whom?

There are really only two choices. One is accountability to the people, the other is accountability to government. There is a semi-fascist in-between option: accountability to the media industry. Only one of these options is compatible with democracy.

In justifying its recommendation, the report places considerable weight on the proposition that the Australian Press Council is "conflicted". That is of course true, as it is funded by those it is seeking to influence.

The basic flaw in the report, however, is the idea that a government tribunal can be independent, impartial and unconflicted.

There is no such thing as an independent government agency, free of conflicting interests, so long as government chooses who will be the members of the agency, and dismisses and funds them (as it must). Government is not impartial. It is a huge concentration of partisan power and self-interest. That is why we need democracy and its essential condition, freedom of speech, to keep government in check.

Government now penetrates almost every institution in society and through its vast money power has already corroded our federal system and our public debate. Few will speak against the government of the day for fear of loss of benefit or threat of political retribution.

The Americans knew, in writing their constitution, that the conflicting interests of government needed to be checked and balanced. John Stuart Mill's great essay, *On Liberty*, was a protest against the political correctness of his day, and expressed the fear that in democracies majorities would try to control those who disagreed.

It was Henry Parkes, the father of our Constitution, who said in the early days of our democracy: "The newspaper press affords the truest safety to the infant liberties of the Australian people."

That timeless student of democracy, Alexis de Tocqueville, saw clearly that a free press was perhaps the single most vital protector of democracy. It was a protection not because it was independent of special interests but because it comprised many conflicting voices expressing multiple conflicting interests. It was its independence of government that was vital.

Once we make the press subject to intrusive regulation by a government tribunal, we will have lost the last great independent free institution and we will have struck a fatal blow at the roots of our democracy. It is madness to suggest the government should set up a tribunal to control the media, whose independence is one of the main checks on government.

It is a dangerous myth that the people and the government are the same. The government is a set of interests that the people must tirelessly watch to make sure it does not destroy their liberties for its own political advantage.

The Finkelstein report appears not to understand these basic issues. Freedom itself is a system of accountability. It is not a perfect system, as Churchill once said, but it is better than any other. Its strength lies in the very variety of interests and opinion it generates.

Wayne Swan has recently sought to lecture us on the danger of wealthy and powerful interests controlling government. I thought for a moment the Treasurer was talking about the trade unions, which preside over vast superannuation funds, pay for his party, control its conferences and are by the far the single most powerful influence on Labor's industrial legislation. But no, he was concerned about other interests entirely.

In a democracy, the beginning of enlightenment is to realise that every institution and office has an interest.

Even the press council contains within it conflicting interests. I notice that its executive director, Julian Disney, has used the Finkelstein report to seek more money and greater independence.

If every institution has potentially conflicting interests, the question becomes: how do we control and limit this conflict? The only answer is the one the Americans came up with a long time ago: checks and balances. And how do we arrange that?

For a whole society, the democratic answer is freedom -- freedom to say what we want without being answerable to a tribunal whose main conflict of interest reflects partisan power. Freedom of speech and the press is the democratic system of accountability and transparency. Finkelstein seems to have forgotten that.

David Kemp was a minister in the Howard government.

*

Published Letter:

Unfortunately our education system has been debased to the point where free expression has been hijacked by the 'human rights' lobby, which continues to push a watered down Marxist-Feminist ideology.

Also the political battle is thus not between left and right wing but between national and international self-interests.

The USA still has its First Amendment that guarantees free expression, which is directly limited by the concept 'moral turpitude'.

We have the nonsense Racial Discrimination Act that attempts to protect 'hurt feelings'. The answer is to throw out political correct thinking and replace it with a strong dose of manners - and such process begins in our schools.

Fredrick Töben - Adelaide

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/opinion/finkelstein-media-recommendations-would-poison-our-democracy/story-e6frqd0x-1226289830360>

WORDS FROM AN INSANE MAN:

"The year is 1938 and Iran is Germany." Benjamin Netanjahu 2007

ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER ATTEMPTS TO BLACKMAIL USA

- wants to make Jewish State of Israel number one in Middle East which, however, is the Islamic Republic of IRAN.

Here we see exemplified a madman's vision of fictional history because he will not admit that the HOLOCAUST-SHOAH is a LIE!

Re-invoking Auschwitz specter, Netanyahu prods U.S. on Iran

By EMAN EL-SHENAWI, AL ARABIYA , Tuesday, 06 March 2012



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recounted how the United States had refrained from attacking the Auschwitz concentration camp out of fear it might provoke "even more vindictive action" from the Germans. (AFP) [The US didn't bomb Auschwitz because NO GASSINGS occurred there!- FT.]

Holding up copies of 1944 correspondence from the United States Department of War, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had intended to touch a raw nerve. In his speech to a gathering of American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) on Monday, Netanyahu drew a pessimistic time line between present-day events in Iran and the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz; the link being, America's unreliability in supporting Israel or the Jewish people back in 1944. Netanyahu recounted how the United States had refrained from attacking the camp out of fear it might provoke "even more vindictive action" from the Germans.

"My friends, 2012 is not 1944... Never again," Netanyahu emotively said at the gathering of America's most influential pro-Israel lobby group, repeating one of the founding slogans of Israel to a roaring standing ovation from the audience. "I appreciate President Obama's recent efforts to impose even tougher sanctions against Iran. Those sanctions are hurting Iran's economy. But unfortunately, Iran's nuclear march goes on," he said.

In recent months, Israel has exerted great effort in trying to persuade Washington to support a preemptive attack on Iran to contain what it deems as a dangerously high nuclear threat from Tehran. A string of U.S. economic sanctions on Iranian exports and security institutions have indicated that Washington interprets the Iranian nuclear setup as a threat too, but not enough of a threat judging by Netanyahu's need to retell a Holocaust episode. This time this particular episode almost tells a story of U.S. betrayal to the Jewish people in a

"You once turned your back on us" manner. Reminding allies of their past mistakes is a strong defense.

"It was a form of pressure, using emotional language to make the case for Israel's vulnerability and trying to get the U.S. to fall in line with his view that military action will be needed," says Salman Shaikh, director of the Brookings Doha Center and the former U.N. Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process. "Only in an arena like that [at AIPAC] could Netanyahu voice such a concern and invoke the Holocaust," adds Shaikh. And this has not been the first time Netanyahu has made not-so-subtle connections between Iran and the Nazi regime. Five years ago, Netanyahu had said of the Iranian nuclear issue: "The year is 1938 and Iran is Germany." It alluded to the ultimate Israeli fear of Iran's involvement in the tit-for-tat scenarios between Israelis and Islamist groups; nuclear proliferation to strengthen groups such as Hezbollah or Hamas or other rogue partners. Shaikh believes Netanyahu will continue mention to the Holocaust "till the cows come home. Netanyahu is very much affected by Holocaust, not just politically, but personally also, believing that there should not be 0.1 percent chance of it happening ever again," says Shaikh. "It's not lost its touch to Europeans and Americans in particular; the mention of the Holocaust will continue to invoke emotion and have an impact on these countries. But we have to dissect the two issues here, the possibility of an Iranian nuclear bomb is something that will impact Europeans and Americans anyway," Shaikh adds.

Meanwhile, Obama's turn to talk at AIPAC presented what appeared to be a resolute U.S. stance on Iran. The president

said he would be prepared to use force against Iran to defend U.S. interests if necessary, but he criticized those who appear to be in a hurry for war. "I would ask that we all remember the weightiness of these issues; the stakes involved for Israel, for America, and for the world. Already, there is too much loose talk of war," Obama told the AIPAC audience.

Why doesn't Obama see a 'nuclear duck'?

Indeed, Netanyahu's speech was an attempt to cast doubt on Barack Obama's diplomatic efforts to avert war in the Middle East, but contrary to some expectations, Netanyahu did not offer any support - however minimal - for Obama's non-military efforts. "The purpose of the Jewish state is to secure the Jewish future," Netanyahu also said. "That is why Israel must always have the ability to defend itself, by itself, against any threat." All the while, Tehran is maintaining that it is enriching uranium

for peaceful purposes, but Netanyahu also had a comeback for this claim. "Amazingly, some people refuse to acknowledge that Iran's goal is to develop nuclear weapons. You see, Iran claims that it's enriching uranium to develop medical research. Yeah, right," he said. "If it looks like a duck, walks like a duck, and quacks like a duck, then what is it? That's right, it's a duck. But this duck is a nuclear duck and it's time the world started calling a duck a duck," the Israeli prime minister said. If Israel is adamant a nuclear duck exists, then this is its attempt to avoid becoming a sitting duck. Indeed, the speech at AIPAC is part of a continuing Israeli effort to have its U.S. ally on side, with the hope that emotive statements and historic reminders will prod the process in its desired direction.

<http://english.alarabiya.net/articles/2012/03/06/198991.html>

From: Fredrick Toben - toben@toben.biz

Sent: Saturday, 3 March 2012 6:16 PM

To: Tony.Abbott.MP@aph.gov.au

Cc: ReportersNotebook@gmail.com; slewis@slatergordon.com.au; info@adelaideinstitute.org

MEDIA RELEASE FROM FREDRICK TÖBEN

Think on these things.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn:

'When you have robbed a man of everything, he is no longer in your power. He is free again.'

*

Anthony Lawson: Holocaust, Hate Speech & Were the Germans so Stupid?

— Updated & Revised <http://vimeo.com/24350691>

*

Fredrick Töben:

'Remember, you cannot deny that which never happened, unless it was true only in your mind, and thus is a lie.' www.jwire.com.au/news/wentworth-candidates-address-board-of-deputies-plenum/10541

Hence, in view of an imposed 17 September 2002 Federal Court of Australia Order that I not question:

A: there is serious doubt that the Holocaust occurred;

B: it is unlikely that there were homicidal gas chambers at Auschwitz;

C: Jewish people who are offended by and challenge Holocaust denial are of limited intelligence;

D: some Jewish people, for improper purposes, including financial gain, have exaggerated the number of Jews killed during World War II and the circumstances in which they were killed -

I now respond to the above A.-D. listed matter and claim:

1. The Holocaust-Shoah is a massive historical lie – during World War Two Germans never gassed anybody.

2. NO homicidal gas chambers existed at Auschwitz nor anywhere else operated by Germans during World War Two.

3. The formulation in D., above, is that of then judge Catherine Branson – now President of the Australian Human Rights Commission who, when challenged by me in 2011 to advise me where TRUTH as a concept resides in her human rights legislation, could not give me a straight answer. Certainly, in the 16-year legal battle TRUTH was no defence. What mattered was protecting 'hurt feelings', which however did not even have to be verified by a medical certificate. Branson took it upon herself to decide whether my written material was 'likely to offend, insult', etc.

4. The six million Jew death number is a lie and there is a Holocaust-Shoah racket going on to this day, among others, in the form of reparations flowing from Germany to Israel. Also consider the fact that the US Holocaust Museum in Washington is a federally-funded institution!

Fredrick Töben - 3.3.2012 - Adelaide - currently in Sydney, Australia.

=====
... and remember, it's a battle of VALUES:

GERMANS NEVER SYSTEMATICALLY GASSED ANYONE IN HOMICIDAL GAS CHAMBERS.

DURING THE 1930s GERMANS ENACTED LAWS TO

1. PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT = 1st green movement - living with nature

2. OUTLAW CRUELTY TO ANIMALS = kosher slaughter = attack on Jewish religion.

Think on these things, then think of the smear campaign against Germans for their cleanliness, inventiveness, hard work ... ARBEIT MACHT FREI!
HATERS, MATERIALISTS, LIARS AND SLAVES CANNOT COPE WITH SUCH VALUES/MINDSET BECAUSE THEY ARE DRIVEN BY ENVY, GREED, DEFICIENCY THINKING = self-consumption - playing the victim and feeling guilty.
GERMANS CELEBRATE PERSONAL FREEDOM; GERMANS LIVE TO WORK; SLAVES WORK TO LIVE
 Anyone who uses the following concepts to stifle/stop free expression is morally and intellectually bankrupt: hater, Holocaust denier, antisemite, racist, Nazi, xenophobe.



FIRED FOR TELLING THE TRUTH

• Popular talk show host pink-slipped for openly discussing taboo subjects By Pat Shannan.
 Was a popular television talk show host and former New Jersey judge kicked off Fox News because he ...
 More <http://americanfreepress.net/?p=2841>»

KEEP AN EYE ON THIS ITEM

\$15,000,000,000,000 - 15 trillion - FRAUD EXPOSED in UK HOUSE of LORDS -
YOUTUBE

16 Feb 2012 : Column 1016

5.20 pm Lord James of Blackheath:

\$15 TRILLION is equivalent to the the federal debt of the U.S. Treasury Department. Lord James of Blackheath has spoken in the House of Lords holding evidence of three transactions of 5 Trillion each and a transaction of 750,000 metric tonnes of gold and has called for an investigation.

I think there are three possible conclusions that may come from it. I think there may have been a massive piece of money laundering committed by a major government which ought to know better and that it has effectively undermined the integrity of the British bank the Royal Bank of Scotland, in doing so. The second alternative is that a major American department has an agency that has gone rogue on it because it has been wound up and has created a structure out of which they are seeking to get at least 50 billion Euros as a payoff. And the third possibility is that this is an extraordinarily

elaborate fraud which has not been carried out but which has been prepared in order to provide a threat to one government or more if they don't pay them off. So there are three possibilities and this all needs a very urgent review.

My Lords, it starts in April and May of 2009, with the alleged transfer to the United Kingdom, to HSBC of a sum of 5 trillion dollars and seven days later, in comes another 5 trillion dollars to HSBC, and then 3 weeks later another 5 trillion. 5 trillion in each case. Sorry. A total of 15 trillion dollars is alleged to have been passed into the hands of HSBC for onward transit to the Royal Bank of Scotland and we need to look at where this came from and what the history of this money is. And I have been trying to sort out the sequence by which this money has been created and from where it has come from for a long time.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201212/ldhansrd/text/120216-0002.htm#12021643000172>

LIKE LITTLE SOLDIERS ON PARADE

Michael Walsh, euroman_uk@yahoo.co.uk 9 February 2012

Should I walk into any social gathering I can be sure of one thing; everyone will have a different opinion on world events. It is good to hear diverse views to draw information. Imagine how

bizarre if we were to find instead hundreds of people in total agreement with each other?

Pick up on mainstream Western media and by a happy coincidence all play the same tune. Newspapers and

broadcasting station names differ but leaving local news aside, on major issues like Israel, immigration, the economy; conflicts, political news, World War 11, Nazism, all sing in perfect harmony. Given the West's much vaunted independence of the media how can this be? In truth the Western media is no more independent than is the flautist in an orchestra. The entire Western media is fed from just a tiny few tightly controlled wire agencies.

Having an appointment with an editor I expected to find noisy printing machines; messages and news stories pouring in; the phone constantly ringing; a madhouse with staff running hither and thither trying to meet deadlines. Not so. My friend was in her office on her own. There wasn't a printing machine in sight, the phone was quiet. She didn't need reporters or staff.

She had bought into a wire agency. They fed the news and editorial content which she managed to fit her newspaper. This was then emailed to printers before distribution.

Wire agencies collect and distribute your news. The wire agency is like an orchestral conductor on the podium; it orchestrates the news content of newspapers and broadcasting stations. The wire agencies (conductors on the podium) are controlled by the bankers' boys.

That is why your newspaper, radio or television broadcasting company; wherever you are in the world, sings the same song.

Download WITNESS TO HISTORY <http://amzn.to/rR41iO>

Has the Media Lost the War **Michael Walsh**

The credibility of the Western media has reached such a low I am reminded of old anti-Soviet black humour. A party of tightly controlled peasants are taken on a tour of Radio Moscow's studios.

Their guide takes them into a small room where a presenter is broadcasting the world news. 'Here,' she explains is where we speak to the world; through this little device here,' she adds as she indicates the microphone.

In awe one of the babushkas in the party asks if she might be allowed to say something; the request is politely turned down. 'Just one little word,' the elderly lady begs; 'please; just one little word?'

'Alright,' the guide says; 'But only one little word; that is all you are allowed.'

Visibly nervous the woman leans towards the microphone, draws breath and screams, 'HELP!'

This humour could certainly be applied to the West's major broadcasting and newspaper institutions. Most refreshing of all is their obvious failing to convince listeners and readers of their impartiality. It appears to have backfired.

Yesterday a breaking story was the allegation that a political leader, whom they described as 'far right', had committed a social faux pas by flirting with a an elderly slapper they described as a fashion model.

I neither know nor care but was amused by reader response. Virtually all dismissed the story as a politically motivated smear ahead of elections. The amusing irony is that it has reached such a pass that anyone 'off message', when smeared by the palace media, could be as guilty as sin but the readers don't believe it.

The same happened with police evidence presented to courts. It was found to be so institutionally tainted that juries stopped believing uniformed witnesses. The outcome was the guilty walked free.

Britain's most widely read scandal sheet is the Daily Mail. It claims 6 million readers; that figure again; go figure. To a ludicrous level it daily carries stories on the Third Reich. These are what are known in the trade as 'Hitler-clicks.' People have a fascination for the man and his epic.

Each article, peppered with predictable tedious cliché, is worthless in terms of news content. The most amusing and spirit-lifting is correspondents' comments. The clear majority are well informed and contemptuous of the media's bias.

This provides palace journalists with a dilemma. Dare they ignore Hitler at a time when his popularity is soaring? If they 'out' pro-Whites do they 'name and shame?' To do so has readers reaching for Google to check the other side of the story, which is hardly desired.

We have heard the expression win-win situation; how about lose-lose situation? As Dr. Joseph Goebbels surmised; 'the lies will break down under their own weight and we will stand as true and undefiled as ever.'

WikiLeaks' 'smear campaign' to save founder Julian Assange

From correspondents in Stockholm, AFP, February 23, 2012 1:25AM

- **Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt "is a US spy"**
- **Bildt will have to step down, says whistleblower website**
- **Minister challenging WikiLeaks to publish "report"**

WIKILEAKS aims to release documents revealing that Swedish Foreign Minister Carl Bildt is a US spy, as part of a "smear campaign" to stop Sweden from extraditing founder Julian Assange to the United States, a Swedish daily reports.

The whistleblower website has threatened in an internal memo to publish a so far unknown diplomatic cable "where Foreign Minister Carl Bildt is shown to have been an informant for the United States since the 1970s," the *Expressen* tabloid reported today, saying it had seen the WikiLeaks memo.

Bildt "will have to step down. This will be the end of his political career," an unnamed person with access to the unpublished diplomatic cable was quoted as saying.

Bildt himself reacted to the report on his official blog today, challenging WikiLeaks to publish "this in their opinion damning report. When that happens, this part of their planned 'smear campaign' will quickly fall to shreds," he wrote.



Spy accusations fly over Carl Bildt (right). Picture: AP
Source: AP

Assange, an Australian, is in Britain fighting extradition to Sweden where he is wanted for questioning on rape and sexual assault allegations, and WikiLeaks has long expressed concern that if he is sent to Sweden, Stockholm would quickly send him on to the US.

Washington is eager to lay hands on the WikiLeaks founder after the organisation's publication of hundreds of thousands of classified US diplomatic files, and according to Expressen the group's "smear campaign" against Sweden would be aimed at blocking Assange's further extradition.

"Julian Assange will most probably be freed from the sex crime suspicions, because that is just a trap," the unnamed person with insight into WikiLeaks told *Expressen*.

"What Assange is afraid of is that he either will be forced to testify in the trial against the arrested soldier and suspected WikiLeaks source (for the leaked diplomatic cables), or that he himself will be arrested and handed over to a US court to be tried for espionage against the United States," he added.

The cable on Bildt reportedly shows that he first became an informant for the United States in 1973 and his original contact was none other than Republican strategist and former president George W Bush's political guru Karl Rove.

WikiLeaks spokesman Kristinn Hrafnsson would meanwhile only confirm that "we have a document that shows the close relationship between Carl Bildt and Washington insiders."

"I am sure that this information will soon be available to the public," he told *Expressen*.

<http://www.news.com.au/world/wikileaks-eyes-sensationalbildtleak/storye6frfkyi1226278885186#ixzz1nAysf2bH>

IN MATTERS JEWISH RELIGION

Jews vet individuals who percolate to the top of any human endeavour, then ascertain if it's 'good for the Jews, or not'. When Jewish identity crises converge in political volatile times it becomes fashionable to find a Jewish Grandparent. Such a process usually follows a narrative, much like the Holocaust myth, which is a fiction.



Madonna, her Kabbalist name being Esther, at the blatant occult ritual during super bowl halftime, the most watched event in all of television. Clearly a satanic celebration of assumed conquest and foreshadowing of events to come. Zen Gardner speculates on Purim on 7-8 March 2012: Purim, literally meaning "to bring to naught, to break, or to crush", is an annual celebration of death and vengeance. It is supposedly based on the Bible book of Esther and celebrates deception by infiltration and the ensuing bloody defeat of a purported Persian threat on the then Jewish people. At the cost of 75,000 Persians. Were the following events coincidental?

*The Iraq war of 1991 ended prematurely exactly on Purim day, immediately following the savage slaughter of 150,000 surrendering Iraqi troops during the Purim dates. Decidedly monstrous in any estimation.

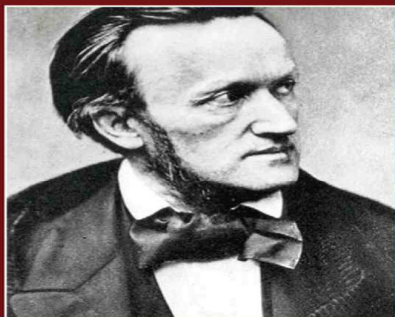
*The next Iraq war **began** on Purim 2003, with a wreckless, sensationalized death-dealing bombardment of Iraqi civilians. The war went on dealing millions of needless deaths and continues to this day.

*To top it off, the merciless Libyan invasion began on Purim 2011...just one week after the Japan earthquake and tsunami.

*There were also massive earthquakes on Purim, a 7.8 in Chile in 2008 and an 8.8 in China in 2010.

<http://www.zengardner.com/alternative-knowledge/purim-why-war-on-persia-iran-could-start-march-7th/>

The latest notable to be given the Jewish roll-over is Richard Wagner – more later. Such is the dilemma when one's identity is built on a lie that is held together by the Jewish Financial Nuclear Weapon.



Was Wagner Jewish?

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH!

*

"These Holocaust deniers are very slick people. They justify everything they say with facts and figures."Chairman, New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education – Newark Star--Ledger, 23 Oct. 1996, p 15.

*

"We must be sure not only to exterminate all German merchant companies and German enterprises in all nations, but also to be sure that we bring these trade connections into our own control."

Sir Edward Carson,(1854-1935),Member of the British War Cabinet In Portsmouth on December 28, 1917.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad called to account before Iranian parliament

MPs summon president to answer questions about the economy and his judgment, weeks before scheduled elections. The Iranian parliament has summoned the president, [Mahmoud Ahmadinejad](#), to answer a series of questions over the government's handling of the economy and his personal judgments. The move is unprecedented in the history of the Islamic republic.

After a year of internal debate and unsuccessful attempts to question or impeach the president, MPs secured enough signatures for an attempt to summon Ahmadinejad. They succeeded in persuading the parliament's presiding board to read the motion during Tuesday's open session.

The move comes at a time of discontent at home owing to western economic sanctions and growing international isolation over [Iran's](#) nuclear programme. In recent weeks, fears of a major confrontation between Iran and the west have grown.



Mahmoud Ahmadinejad opens a medical production line, in front of a picture of the supreme leader, Ayatollah Khamenei.

Photograph: Ay-Collection/Sipa/Rex Features

Within a month of receiving the summons, Ahmadinejad is required by law to appear in the parliament. Otherwise, MPs may impeach him. However, such a decision does not follow automatically either from his failing to attend the session or from his failing to give answers that satisfy parliament.

Local news agencies quoted the deputy head of the Iranian parliament, Mohammad Reza Bahonar, as saying: "Ahmadinejad will be immediately informed about the decision ... He has to appear in parliament a month after being officially informed." Earlier this month, representatives of Ahmadinejad had met with MPs in an attempt to address their concerns about the president. But Mostafa Reza Hosseini, a spokesman for the MPs, told the semi-official Mehr news agency that they "had not been convinced by the answers", resulting in their summoning the president, in a motion signed by 79 of Iran's 290 MPs.

This is the first time since the 1979 Islamic revolution that the parliament has summoned the president for questioning. Abdulhassan Banisadr, Iran's first post-revolutionary president, was impeached in June 1981 and exiled for allegedly attempting to undermine clerical power in the country.

Previous attempts by Iranian MPs to question Ahmadinejad failed owing to apparent intervention by the country's supreme leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, who holds the ultimate power in

Iran. Khamenei, who adopted Ahmadinejad as his protege in the past, does not appear to have stepped in this time.

Iranian agencies have published a list of 10 questions the MPs expect Ahmadinejad to answer when he appears in parliament. These include questions about the government's controversial plan to reform subsidies, his refusal to comply with parliamentary legislation, and about a period of time last year when Ahmadinejad stayed away from the presidential palace for 11 days in an apparent protest at Khamenei's reinstatement of a minister he had asked to step down.

Last year, Ahmadinejad's unprecedented disobedience of Khamenei and his many public confrontations with the parliament prompted harsh criticism from conservatives.

Ahmadinejad's summoning comes less than a month before the country's parliamentary elections, in March. The vote will be the first national ballot since the 2009 disputed presidential poll, when popular uprisings against the results challenged the legitimacy of the regime.

Iran's intelligence minister, Heidar Moslehi, has described the March vote as "the most sensitive" elections in the history of the Islamic republic".

Speaking to the Guardian, a former adviser to an Iranian president, who asked not to be named, said: "The summoning has come at the worst time for Ahmadinejad. It is a shock for the campaign of those of his supporters who are running in the parliamentary elections. At the time when he should be campaigning for his allies, he has to sit in the position of the wrongdoer and defend himself."

With few weeks before the elections, on 2 March, Tehran's leaders are acting to avert any possible recurrence of the 2009 unrest as calls for a widespread boycott of the vote gather pace among the opposition

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/feb/07/mahmoud-ahmadinejad-iran-parliament>

*

Sunday, March 4, 2012, READERS IN COUNCIL –

<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/text/rc-all.html>

End the demonization of Iran

By RICHARD WILCOX, Tokyo

Will the demonization ever end before another catastrophic war takes place in another Middle Eastern country? In Shai Greenberg's Feb. 23 letter urging Japan to boycott sales of Iranian oil, "[Unbearable cost of Iranian oil](#)," we are treated to the usual blather about Iran developing an "offensive nuclear weapon" (are there any other kinds?). On the other hand, the author supports Israel by claiming that Iran constantly threatens its existence.

These assertions are myths, not facts. First, it is well documented that — just as in Iraq — no weapons program has been uncovered in Iran. On the other hand, why does Israel have the right to have hundreds of nuclear weapons and refuse any international inspectors? I call that a double standard of grotesque proportions.

I presume that Iran's "constant threats made against Israel's existence" (mentioned in the letter) refer to the remark attributed to Iran's president that Iran would "wipe Israel off

the map." This was an intentional misquotation that became common knowledge. What Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said was that the "Zionist regime" is morally corrupt and, as a result, "will disappear from the pages of history" just like other empires that have crumbled. Iran has not attacked another country in its 200-year history. It did defend itself in the war against a United States-funded

Iraq in the 1980s. I strongly support Japan's buying of Iranian oil.

The opinions expressed in this letter to the editor are the writer's own and do not necessarily reflect the policies of The Japan Times.

<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/text/rc20120304a5.html>

Dutch mobile euthanasia units to make house calls

New scheme called 'Life End' will respond to sick people whose own doctors have refused to help them end their lives at home

Kate Connolly in Berlin, guardian.co.uk, Thursday 1 March 2012 16.45 GMT



Dutch euthanasia organisation Life-End will be offering its home services free of charge to Dutch citizens. Photograph: Etienne Ansotte/EPA

A controversial system of mobile euthanasia units that will travel around the country to respond to the wishes of sick people who wish to end their lives has been launched in the [Netherlands](http://www.guardian.co.uk).

The scheme, which started on Thursday, will send teams of specially trained doctors and nurses to the homes of people whose own doctors have refused to carry out patients' requests to end their lives.

The launch of the so-called *Levensende*, or "Life End", house-call units – whose services are being offered to Dutch citizens free of charge – coincides with the opening of a clinic of the same name in The Hague, which will take patients with incurable illnesses as well as others who do not want to die at home. The scheme is an initiative by the Dutch Association for a Voluntary End to Life (NVVE), a 130,000-member euthanasia organisation that is the biggest of its kind in the world.

"From Thursday, the Life End clinic will have mobile teams where people who believe they are eligible for euthanasia can register," Walburg de Jong, a NVVE spokesman, said. "If they do comply, the teams will be able to carry out the euthanasia at patients' homes should their regular doctors be unable or refuse to help them," he added.

The Netherlands was the first country to legalise euthanasia in 2002 and its legislation on the right to die is considered to be the most liberal in the world. But doctors cannot be forced to comply with the wishes of patients who request the right to die and many do refuse, which was what prompted NVVE to develop a system to fill the gap.

Sick people or their relatives can submit their applications via telephone or email and if the patient's request fulfils a number of strict criteria, the team is then dispatched.

Legal guidelines state that the person must be incurably sick, be suffering unbearable pain and have expressed the wish to die voluntarily, clearly and on several occasions.

According to De Jong, the team will make contact with the doctor who has refused to help the patient to die and ask what his or her reasons were.

More often than not, he said, the motivations are religious or ethical, adding that sometimes doctors were simply not well enough informed about the law. If the team is satisfied that the patient's motives are genuine, they will contact another doctor with whom they will start the euthanasia process.

"They will first give the patient an injection, which will put them into a deep sleep, then a second injection follows, which will stop their breathing and heart beat," De Jong said.

Every year 2,300 to 3,100 mercy killings are carried out in the Netherlands, although opponents of the practice claim the figure is much higher because many cases are not registered. The Royal Dutch Medical Association (KNMG) supports euthanasia in principle if there is no alternative, but has distanced itself from the NVVE initiative, arguing that giving it the name Life End will foster the idea that it is for those who it said are simply "weary of life" rather than those who are sick.

It has also questioned whether Life End doctors will have the chance to forge the necessary relationship with a patient to be able to ascertain whether or not his or her life should be ended.

But Jan Kuyper, of the Life End Clinic Foundation, said: "We're not trying to push any boundaries here." He said it was quite possible that the mobile teams would not end up carrying out a mercy killing, either due to medical questions about the case or if doubt is cast on the patient's motives.

Little is known about the Life End teams. But one of the team leaders is believed to be a 67-year-old retired doctor who carried out 20 mercy killings during his medical career.

The teams would be limited to one house visit a week to minimise the psychological burden on them.

In neighbouring Germany, where mercy killings are strictly illegal, euthanasia opponents were particularly vocal in expressing their outrage at the developments. "This is an inhumane proposal," said the German Hospice Foundation, while the group Life Rights for Everyone called it a "warped understanding of [the meaning of] autonomy".

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2012/mar/01/dutch-mobile-euthanasia-units>

Winning the War

As Israel Apartheid Week returns to college campuses across the country, how should supporters of Israel fight the battle for hearts and minds?

By [the Editors](#) | February 28, 2012 7:00 AM

Don't Go Negative

David Bernstein is the executive director of the David Project, a nonprofit that positively shapes campus opinion on Israel.

The best response to anti-Israelism on campus is pro-Israelism.

It's important to remember that the United States is not the United Kingdom, where anti-Israelism is widespread. According to the most recent [Gallup poll](#), Americans are more sympathetic to the Israelis (rather than to the Palestinians) by a margin of 63 to 17 percent. While levels of support for Israel are lower on campus, most college students are more inclined to support Israel than the Palestinians.

There may be a more serious problem at elite colleges, where the discussion of Israel is driven by a far-left and postmodern worldview, as well as by radicalized Middle East study programs. But even at schools like Columbia and Berkeley, the problem is mostly not outright hostility but a drip-drip negativity.

In an environment trending negative, the best approach is not to "respond" but to promote. When we spend our energy responding to anti-Israel accusations, we engage the battle on our adversaries' terms—not ours. Further, by taking on the detractors, we help them get more publicity than they could on their own and can end up sounding shrill ourselves. The average college student, faced with dueling arguments, will say "a pox on both of your houses," which, in the American context, constitutes a loss for Israel.

A much better strategy than responding to the detractors is to take a targeted, pro-active, and positive approach that meets segments of students (and faculty) where they are and brings them closer to our view. AIPAC has successfully used this strategy to identify and build ties with college students most likely to serve in Congress one day.

The organization I lead, the David Project, just released an [in-depth report](#), "A Burning Campus? Rethinking Israel Advocacy at America's Universities and Colleges," that lays out our view on the issue. Here's a quick summary of our strategy for winning the campus battle:

1. Help pro-Israel students identify and reach out to "influencers" on campus, from members of student government to the heads of ethnic organizations to campus celebrities. These relationships can be enhanced by trips for these influencers led by pro-Israel student leaders themselves.
2. Hold small, targeted events in partnership with non-Jewish organizations (and avoid large-scale events that usually only attract our side and theirs).
3. Take advantage of the growth and influence of business departments and a corresponding interest in Israel's growing economic successes.
4. Combat the influence of anti-Israel professors by organizing pro-Israel professors and training others to teach more courses on Israel unaffected by anti-Israel propaganda (like at the Summer Institute for Israel Studies at Brandeis).

There is no easy fix for the problems on campus. But by moving from reaction to action, we can assure that future generations of influential Americans remain broadly supportive of the Jewish state.

Expose Biased Professors and the Influence of Petrodollars

Rachel Fish is a doctoral student in Israel Studies at Brandeis.

The [new white paper](#) published by the David Project, an organization I worked for between 2003 and 2009, should prompt serious community discussion about anti-Israelism—a growing, decades-long problem that is doing real harm to Israel's standing among American elites and reshaping Jewish life on campus. For the most part, the description of the problem is on target: Leftist faculty and student groups, along with Muslim organizations, work consistently—and typically in concert—to defame and undermine the Jewish state and its

supporters in the guise of "academic freedom" and under the banner of "human rights."

This campaign has successfully made "Palestinianism"—the notion that an innocent, indigenous people suffers a senseless, cruel oppression by the Jews of Israel—the *cause célèbre* on many campuses. It has created a hostile environment for pro-Israel students who are sometimes intimidated, harassed, and, in the worst cases, [physically threatened](#). Mostly, however, supporters of Israel on campus are simply silenced. They correctly understand that if they stand up for Israel, they risk being mocked, marginalized, subject to receiving lower grades, and perhaps limiting their career opportunities. After speaking to scores of pro-Israel professors, students, and some Hillel professionals, it is extremely clear to me that many Jewish students are cowed into silence by social pressure and career concerns.

Given the depth of the problem on campus, focusing education efforts primarily on students will not ultimately change the university. Students are an important component of the campus community, and their education about Israel must begin before they step foot on campus, but they are not the decisive constituency at universities. They alone will not be able to alter the discourse.

If we want to see real change, the structural elements of campus life—faculty, administration, and funding sources, all of which have far greater power than students—must be confronted. As important as it is to work with and educate students, their stints at the university are short, and they have limited influence. They will likely be overwhelmed by radical professors, multimillion dollar programs funded by countries like Saudi Arabia, and administrators bullied by tenured faculty and insensitive to Jewish concerns.

Teaching about Israel's remarkable achievements is insufficient; a "defense-only" approach cannot win. Bias against Israel has to be shown to be the shameless hypocrisy that it is.

The Jewish community must deal with the institutional issues: professors who abuse the power of the podium, the influence of petrodollars, and insensitivity by the administration. Moreover, instructing students to mostly ignore and be silent about the lies, distortions, and half-truths propagated by Israel's detractors reflects a lack of moral courage. History has shown that silence has not been a friend to the Jews.

Publicly Confront Pernicious Arguments

David Fine is a junior at Columbia. He is editor in chief of the [Current](#).

It had all the trappings of a bad one-liner—a liberal and a conservative, a socialist and a libertarian, and a smattering of others, all seated behind microphones in the grand rotunda of Columbia's Low Library. What followed, though, was amazing: an actual substantive debate.

It began when a representative from Columbia's International Socialist Organization said that Hamas, as the "democratically elected government" in Gaza, had every right to "resist" the Israeli government.

Instead of answering the next question posed to me by the moderators, I turned to the ISO representative and asked: Was she really justifying lobbing missiles into apartment buildings and schools, or blowing up children on buses? She countered very simply, saying that people have the right to respond to political conditions by whatever means necessary. So, my fellow debater endorsed killing civilians as a legitimate means of political action.

It was the moment I had been told to fear—the dreaded campus debate about Israel—and yet no lightning struck. It turns out that it was fairly easy to expose this person's despicable worldview.

It's important to remember, as the fake walls and fake checkpoints and fake tanks of Israel Apartheid Week come and go, such spectacles are just that—spectacle. Ideas and arguments hold more sway. And if we know our stuff, and believe in the truth of our arguments, then we should win the real debates every time.

So, while we hold up placards and hand out fact sheets on campus this week, we should look forward to the rest of the semester. We should sharpen our wits and confront those whose aim is the destruction of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state. The best that happens is that they reveal their ideologies for what they truly are.

[Continue reading: Chucking the Hasbara Machine](#)

Persuade the Undecided—Especially in the Classroom
Gilad Wenig is senior at New York University majoring in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies.

Earlier this month, the Israeli government [announced](#) that it would be dispatching over 100 Israelis to college campuses in the United States. Timed in accordance with Israel Apartheid Week, the “Faces of Israel” campaign is meant to counter anti-Zionist activities on campuses. But will this strategy work? I’m skeptical.

Quite often, speakers sponsored by the Israeli government come across as overtly partisan, and, in my experience, the people who go to such events already support the Jewish state. In addition, as a report recently released by the David Project claimed, pro-Israel speakers can often be “counterproductive” because they invite protest and controversy.

When he visited NYU in 2009, Yuli Edelstein, Israel’s minister of Information and Diaspora, asked a small group of students how to effectively rebrand Israel on campus. Overall, the answers were uninspired. Three years later, I have a suggestion: Leave it to us.

The key is shifting our focus from debating the anti-Israel types to engaging the much larger group that is undecided, uninformed, and vulnerable to persuasion by a politically assertive teaching assistant or controversial reading assignment.

Contrary to popular perception, students who support Israel can have a meaningful impact in the classroom. Empowering pro-Israel students to engage professors, teaching assistants, and even peers on contentious points should be highlighted as part of a multipronged approach to dealing with anti-Zionism on campus.

Just last year, in a survey course of modern Middle Eastern history, my professor made a comment insinuating collusion between colonialism and early Zionism. Based on sources I had read in another class, I immediately met with the professor and expressed my concern with linking the two, especially in an introductory course. After our lengthy and frank discussion, she publicly clarified her comments during the following lecture and insisted that she strives to maintain an unbiased atmosphere. And indeed she did so the rest of the semester.

Pro-Israel Jewish students can challenge professors directly. Just remember to stay cool-headed, and be sure to have your facts in order. Otherwise, you’re in for a very rude awakening.

Abandon Talking Points, and Embody the Right Values
Yoav Schaefer, a former IDF soldier, is the director of the [Avi Schaefer Fund](#) and a student at Harvard University.

Israel Apartheid Week is an unfortunate manipulation of the discussion about Israel-Palestine on campuses, but I believe its bark is worse than its bite. Negative and extreme forms of advocacy tend to alienate the very people they are trying to reach. This isn’t just true of the activists that organize campaigns intended to demonize Israel: It’s often true of the Jewish community’s reaction to such displays. Our overly robust response tends to confer greater legitimacy and publicity to anti-Zionist activities. This occurred in reaction to the University of Pennsylvania’s [BDS Conference](#) earlier this month and, unfortunately, seems likely to happen at Harvard’s [One-State Conference](#) that begins this weekend.

Consider the fact that about [65 percent](#) of the coverage of last year’s Israel Apartheid Week was in Israeli or Jewish publications. It’s time to reevaluate the ineffective and often counterproductive forms of advocacy promoted by many

Jewish organizations, and explore new ways to educate about Israel on campus.

As an activist fighting against divestment at the University of California at Berkeley in 2010, I watched as pro-Israel students, with their well-rehearsed advocacy points and flyers packed with facts, failed to combat the emotionally powerful narratives of pro-Palestinian activists. Our advocacy failed us at Berkeley, it has failed us on campuses across North America, and it will continue to fail us. And, let’s be honest, with the current direction of Israeli politics, it is becoming increasingly difficult to make the case for Israel on campus.

We cannot allow our Israel education to be defined by those who are anti-Israel. Nor can we fall into the trap of debating the merits of every Israeli policy—that’s a losing strategy. Instead, our task is to defend Israel’s fundamental right to exist. This can’t be accomplished through a well-oiled *hasbara* machine, but by personally embodying values and aspirations with which people can identify: empathy, understanding, and peace.

We need to admit upfront that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is complex, and confront anti-Israel sentiments with nuance and sophistication. Most importantly, we need to engage students with whom we disagree.

Rather than respond directly to Israel Apartheid Week, pro-Israel students should work to promote a culture of civility on campus, and focus on positive forms of Israel education that portray the Jewish state’s vibrancy. One-dimensional advocacy is counterproductive—uninformed students see it as anti-intellectual and ideological spoon-feeding. Only by discussing the fundamental meaning and purpose of Israel—not defending the status-quo, but challenging students to build a more perfect country that embodies the values of the Jewish people—can we transform North American universities into mechanisms for positive change. Indeed, the most important work on campuses is not countering anti-Israel groups, but changing the outdated models of advocacy and education within our own community.

Pro-Palestinian Doesn’t Mean Anti-Israel
Logan Bayroff is the president of J Street U National Student Board and a junior at the University of Pennsylvania.

When it comes to political activism on campus, it’s important to distinguish between what is anti-Israel and what is pro-Palestinian. At [J Street U](#), we believe many parts of the Palestinian narrative are worthy of Jewish consideration. Israeli and American leaders have long understood that ending the conflict requires a two-state solution—and that means supporting Palestinian self-determination.

Of course there is another, uglier face of campus advocacy. Some groups denounce Israel’s very existence, often using the extreme language of apartheid. Understandably, this rhetoric, coupled with demonstrations involving “apartheid walls” and mock checkpoints, causes a great deal of upset among many pro-Israel students. Unfortunately, this tends to lead to exaggerated, pre-programmed responses that ignore the intertwined nature of the Israeli and Palestinian causes and hastily label various activities as anti-Israel or anti-Semitic.

Instead, we should encourage dialogue and pragmatism. Inviting students to discuss Israel’s strengths and challenges gives campus advocacy a productive focus. When the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement held a national conference at Penn last month, our Hillel and Israel advocacy leaders responded by organizing over 50 student-run dinner discussions for the general student body, where Israel was the focus. At dinners hosted by J Street U, students of different backgrounds and opinions came together to share their love for and critiques of Israel.

Weeks later, we held an event in conjunction with a [pro-Palestinian student group](#), with a former IDF officer who is now a representative of a major Israeli [human rights organization](#). Students were confronted with the hard reality of settlements and occupation and were at the same time exposed to a fiercely proud Zionist who is working to achieve the Israel envisioned by its founders. An approach like this

trusts in students' ability to appreciate complex situations. In campus advocacy, as in the conflict itself, extremism is best answered with moderation and engagement toward the achievement of shared goals.

<http://www.tabletmag.com/jewishnewsandpolitics/9271/winning-the-war/?all=1>



([Sarah Lazarovic](#))

The eighth annual Israel Apartheid Week began this weekend, and over the coming days, walls and mock checkpoints will go up on campuses across the country. What is the best way for Zionists to respond to campaigns that aim to smear the Jewish state? We asked students at Harvard, Columbia, NYU, and Penn—as well as professional Israel advocates—to weigh in.



Mask of Zion – By Jonathan Azaziah - jonathan.azaziah@gmail.com



Anyone who demands the full liberation of Palestine and nothing less, and who has no fear of criticizing "Jewish voices for peace" that are really just Zionist shields, will immediately be stamped with the "anti-Semitism" label.
<http://www.maskofzion.com/>

What's new in this report?

Highly educated teachers the key to success

Updated February 29, 2012 00:59:00

Finland's director of education Pasi Sahlberg joins Lateline to discuss the nation's world-leading education system.

Emma Alberici, Source: [Lateline](#) | Duration: 14min 26sec

EMMA ALBERICI: Pasi Sahlberg is director-general of the ministry of education in Helsinki, but he's spending more and more of his time outside Finland teaching governments and schools the Finnish way.

Finland consistently beats most of the rest of the countries in the OECD in maths, reading and literacy at all levels of primary and high school. The secret, according to him, is to be found in Finland's highly educated teachers.

Teaching in Finland is a respected and prestigious profession, and it's paid accordingly. Gaining entry to study teaching is extremely competitive, and nearly every teacher in the country has a master's degree.

I spoke to Pasi Sahlberg from Melbourne.

Pasi Sahlberg, welcome to Lateline.

PASI SAHLBERG, FINNISH DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF EDUCATION: Thank you.

EMMA ALBERICI: Finland occupies the number one spot as far as the OECD testing standard is concerned - the so-called program for international student assessment. Australia over the last decade on the other hand has fallen behind on that same score. What do you think is behind your country's success?

PASI SAHLBERG: Well, you know, we have been working for this current situation for the last 30 or 40 years - very systematically starting from 1970s - and I think one of the keys of our good performance is that we have systematically focused on equity and equality in our education system, and not so much on excellence and achievement like many other countries have done. And now we know, also through the OECD data and research, that the equity is the one that is also bringing excellence - just like this, not only Finland, but also Canada and Korea, for example, are the same. So I think the systematic way of addressing those who are in special need and need more help is the key.

EMMA ALBERICI: When you say equality and equity, what exactly do you mean?

PASI SAHLBERG: Well, starting from the equitable funding of school system. I know that this is a current issue here in Australia, to think about how education should be funded. We have been doing pretty much those recommendations in the Gonski Report now for the last 20 years - where we try to make sure that everybody in the schools, all the schools will get the equal funding, and then the schools would be also funded according to their needs.

EMMA ALBERICI: There's been a lot of debate in Australia about school funding by the Government, particularly in the past week since the release of the Gonski Report. The biggest controversy lies in whether the Federal Government should be directing part of its budget to the private school sector, the argument being that they are just helping to fund parent choice. Do you believe that a parent's choice of sending their children to an elite private school should be subsidised by the government?

PASI SAHLBERG: This is a very difficult thing to comment on, because we don't... in Finland we don't have any private schools, and I don't know enough about the situation here to make any comments. But reading the report published, I think the recommendations that would be securing more funding, public funding for those schools who have more students in need is the right one, but I don't want to make any comments on the funding private schools otherwise, because I simply don't know enough about the situation.

EMMA ALBERICI: So how are your schools funded?

PASI SAHLBERG: Our schools are funded very close to what this report is recommending you to do. So we give schools a kind of a basic funding equally based on the number of students they have, and then we adjust the school budget based on the school's need. For example, if there are more immigrant children or pupils coming from the single parent

families, the schools normally receive more funding so that they can deal with these issues easily. So there are many similarities in what we are doing now to those recommendations in the Gonski Report.

EMMA ALBERICI: Why don't you have private schools in Finland?

PASI SAHLBERG: Because we think... you know, our choice has always been to focus more on equity and equality in education rather than choice. This is often seen as the two sides of the same coin - that you either emphasise choice, school choice for parents, or the parents can choose the school - or then you put in place policies that make sure that all the schools are good. And this is what we have been, as I said, doing for the last 30 or 40 years, actually. Trying to make sure that every single school is a good school in Finland, and all the schools have good teachers, so that this would minimise the need for parents to choose the school, and we are exactly in this situation today.

EMMA ALBERICI: You've spent some time in Australia now. What do you think are the most striking differences between the education systems here and in Finland?

PASI SAHLBERG: Well, I think you have a very different approach to using... collecting data and using data and reporting the school's success. In the Finnish system we are relying much more on teachers and the schools' ability to report to parents and authorities how the schools are doing. I think the other thing is that we, in Finland, probably have much more confidence and trust on teachers' and principals' work, whereas here I realise that you have probably much more... kind of a doubtful situation, where politicians and media and public is not so sure that the schools and teachers can do what they were supposed to do, and this is something that is a big difference between these two countries.

EMMA ALBERICI: Because in Finland, you hand responsibility for decisions in education to the teachers?

PASI SAHLBERG: That's exactly so, and we have been working on this situation systematically now for the last 20 years, where we have given the authority and autonomy also to the schools from the central administration, and I think this is, frankly speaking, one of the keys also to this favourable situation that we have internationally.

EMMA ALBERICI: So you mean principals hire and fire their teachers, and have a much more autonomous reign over their schools?

PASI SAHLBERG: Exactly, and I think the most important thing in this school autonomy in Finland is that all the schools are both responsible and also free to design their own curriculum as they wish, based on the quite loose national curriculum framework. So financing and managing the school is one thing, but I think the... using teachers' knowledge and skills that we have in our system to design how they want teaching and learning to take place is the most important thing.

EMMA ALBERICI: You've used the word "trust". How important do you believe that relationship of trust is between the government and the teachers?

PASI SAHLBERG: I think it's a very important. At least it's very important in our system where we are now in a situation where teachers trust their students, and principals trust teachers, and according to our national surveys parents seem to be most confident with the public school system than any other public institution in Finland. So there seems to be a kind of overall trust in the education system, so that also the minister of education can sleep his night peacefully.

EMMA ALBERICI: In the past two years, our Government has introduced standardised testing for children as young as five up to Year 12 students. Now our Prime Minister has billed those test results as a significant resource for student, for parents and of course for teachers. Do you agree that this kind

of testing in Australian education represents an important leap forward?

PASI SAHLBERG: Well, I have nothing against standardised testing, per se. But, I think how the test data is used to hold teachers and schools accountable and how the school's performance is made public through websites or media - I'm not sure that this is the way we should go, at least this is not the way we have been doing things in Finland. Anywhere where these types of things had put in place, teachers have started to focus more on teaching to the test, and curriculum has narrowed. If the test data is only collected through two or three subjects - like is often done measuring literacy and mathematics - this means that these subjects will become the most important things in a school. And the other thing is that these knowledge tests often measure only the things that can be measured and not, for example, problem solving or creativity to the extent that they should be, and this leads teachers and schools to focus on these things more than they could do otherwise.

EMMA ALBERICI: The Australian Government, on the other hand, actually promotes standardised testing as the most reliable measure of success - for students, for teachers, for schools, and of course for parents.

PASI SAHLBERG: We know very well that the inequality that our students have through the parents' socioeconomic background is a very strong factor that is explaining their performance. And in many cases, this is far beyond the teacher's control.

EMMA ALBERICI: Given that you in Finland don't have national testing, how do you know then if certain children are falling through the cracks? What safeguards are in place to pick that up?

PASI SAHLBERG: We have good teachers to do this - and this is basically the only thing we can use - that we have the schools that are responsible to make sure that each and every child is progressing and doing well in the school, so it's the teachers. It's a teacher's shared responsibility in the school and the principal working with them, and we have no other means than the school-based reporting and teachers' word for this.

EMMA ALBERICI: Here in Australia, virtually anyone can study to become a teacher. Your final year scores at high school don't have to be particularly high, and your salary at the end reflects that. How is the situation different in Finland?

PASI SAHLBERG: Well we have probably the most competitive primary school teacher education system in the world, where we can only take 10 per cent of the applicants, which means that this makes entry into teacher education in Finland very, very difficult. And it also automatically raises the quality of intake, and then the quality of teachers as well. So, it's a very different situation because the teaching has become a very popular profession among young people in Finland.

EMMA ALBERICI: So how does teaching compare to, say, studying medicine or law?

PASI SAHLBERG: If we take just the plain numbers of applicants and accepted, we have more... it's more difficult to get into primary school teacher education in Finnish universities than medicine, for example.

EMMA ALBERICI: So in Finland you actually need higher entrance scores to study teaching than medicine?

PASI SAHLBERG: You need at least the equally high high school graduation scores to become primary school teacher than to enter the school of medicine.

EMMA ALBERICI: How does that higher teacher status affect educational results in Finland, in your view?

PASI SAHLBERG: I think it's a very important thing. This has created also the situation in Finland where teachers are very highly respected because of this highly competitive way of getting into teaching, and we know that anybody who is graduating from department of teacher education must be pretty good academically, and also as a person - because of this very strict entry control.

EMMA ALBERICI: In your recent book, you observe that Finland stands outside the global education reform movement. You've used the acronym for that as GERM, and you've said it's infected the US, it's infected the UK and Australia. What is this virus you refer to?

PASI SAHLBERG: Well, this global educational reform movement is a way of thinking about reforming education that is based on ideas of competition, choice, accountability, testing. In other words, all these market-based ideas of running the education system. I'm using this term GERM, because I have found that the Finnish way of building good education system is not only different to the GERM, but it's almost the opposing way of building education policies and reforms.

EMMA ALBERICI: In what way?

PASI SAHLBERG: For example, if I take the competition idea, where in all of these countries that you mentioned, the policies are built on the idea that competition will ultimately improve the quality of teaching. In Finland we don't have these policies. We believe that cooperation and networking and sharing are the things and important things to make sure that everybody will be able to improve and do things better. Accountability is another one where, in many of these so-called infected countries, schools and teachers and principals are increasingly held accountable through the standardised tests; and in Finland, we have been trying to build trust and responsibility within our education systems rather than accountability. So, many of these GERM elements are actually opposite to what Finland has been doing.

EMMA ALBERICI: Pasi Sahlberg thank you so much for being with us tonight.

PASI SAHLBERG: Thank you very much.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-02-28/highly-educated-teachers-the-key-to-success/3858612>

From: JB Campbell jb_campbell@yahoo.com Sent: Friday, 9 March 2012 2:24 AM Subject: Press TV

I was asked to comment this morning on the sanctions against Iran:

"Sanctions by the United Nations mean starvation by the United States. The UN is a US front - controlled by the CIA. The CIA is controlled by American Zionists. The favorite Jewish method of killing people is by starvation, or famine. The Jewish Communists killed millions of Russians, Ukrainians and Germans by deliberate starvation. The Jewish Zionists have done the same thing to Palestinians and the American Jews killed millions of Iraqis by starvation and deprivation, which our Jewish secretary of state, Albright, said was. "worth it." Worth what?

I have lived under UN starvation sanctions. The UN did this to Rhodesia from 1965 to 1980, along with a vicious terror war. The UN was ordered to starve out the Rhodesians by Lyndon Johnson of America and Harold Wilson of England. This is the

typical cowardly method of the American and British sadists, controlled and financed by Jews.

Starvation is the favorite Jewish method of mass killing. It is a very painful death and it costs nothing - the perfect Jewish combination.

Rhodesia was able to feed itself due to good farming practices. Other consumer goods were not available, of course. Gasoline was in short supply and had to be rationed. If it weren't for a friendly South Africa, we would not have had any petroleum products at all.

Americans must destroy the American planners of the coming war against friendly Iran. This is the only way to prevent another Jewish war of annihilation, since all of these wars are run by America, hiding behind the blue and white flags of Israel and the United Nations Organization."

This Bethlehem conference is no Purimshpiel

By ABRAHAM COOPER AND YITZCHOK ADLERSTEIN 02/29/2012 22:57



Those evangelicals who embrace the justice of Israel's historical claim to the Land face CATC's shameless rewriting of history. - By Reuters

As Julius Streicher was led to the gallows, he understood the irony in 10 major Nazi criminals being hanged in the space of 103 minutes. "Purim-fest 1946!" he exclaimed, referring to the hanging of Haman's 10 sons after their father's attempted genocide of the Jewish people was thwarted by Mordechai and Queen Esther in ancient Persia. This year on March 3, Bethlehem will play host to a gathering whose purpose also resonates with the Purim story. This time, the object is ostensibly not the annihilation of Jews, but rather of the Jewish state.

The Christ at the Checkpoint Conference (CATC) differs from other church Middle East "peace initiatives" like Israel Apartheid Weeks or BDS campaigns. Those preach – mostly to the converted – that immoral Israel is the greatest threat to world peace, while hoping to energize the apathetic and ignorant. There is little indication that these hostile activities have impacted erstwhile supporters of Israel.

CATC, however, is taking dead aim at Israel's single largest and most reliable supporter: tens of millions of evangelical Christians who have stood with the Jewish state since day one. If it achieves even some of its aims, the consequences will be disastrous for Israel and world Jewry.

CATC, which first met in 2010, attacks the two pillars of evangelical support.

Some evangelicals – but definitely not all – find theological roots to stand by Israel. Past presenters at CATC have strenuously argued that Christian Zionism is a perversion of Christian belief. With the arrival of Jesus, Jews and their descendants lost all claim to Biblical covenants – replaced by the New Jews, or Christians. To achieve their political goal, some CATC presenters resurrect Replacement Theology, which together with the charge of deicide, were key theological inspiration for Jew-hatred for two millennia.

Those evangelicals who embrace the justice of Israel's historical claim to the Land face CATC's shameless rewriting of history. Jews are depicted as recent usurpers while Palestinians are presented as the true descendants of the Biblical Jews! At CATC 2010, Pastor Mitri Raheb, head of the Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church in Bethlehem, said, "Actually, Israel represents Rome of the Bible, not the people of the land. And this is not only because I'm a Palestinian. I'm sure if we were to do a DNA test [comparing] David, who was a Bethlehemite, and Jesus, born in Bethlehem, and Mitri, born just across the street from where Jesus was born, I'm sure the DNA will show that there is a trace. While if you put King David, Jesus and Netanyahu [to the test], you will get nothing,

because Netanyahu comes from an East European tribe who converted to Judaism in the Middle Ages."

The campaign of Christian Palestinianism first wooed the evangelical Left and Center with activists going church by church with an emotionally charged, visually driven narrative of suffering at the hands of brutal Israeli occupiers. Now CTAC hope to win over some important conservative backers of Israel who are attending this year's Bethlehem conference. They will be lobbied by Christians – not Muslims – to avoid the inconvenient truth of the atrocious treatment of Christians by Muslims throughout the Middle East and Africa.

Key presenters at the conference include Anglican Rev. Stephen Sizer, who keeps company with people like Sheikh Nabil Kaouk, deputy chairman of Hezbollah's executive council. He and Holocaust denier Fredrick Töben participated in the Voice of Palestine's Nakba Conference in Jakarta, where Sizer proclaimed, "The church in Palestine was telling me something very different, and what I learned was that Palestine needed to be liberated from the Jews!" One Anglican cleric, Rev. Nick Howard has called on the Church of England to move against Sizer for online posting of anti-Semitic and Holocaust revisionist materials.

Another speaker is Gary Burge, author of *Whose Land? Whose Promise? What Christians Are Not Being Told About Israel and the Palestinians*, who sits on the board of directors of the Middle East Fellowship, The Holy Land Trust's US partner. An early anti-Israel activist and biblical authority, Burge opined that "The people of Israel cannot claim to be planted as vines in the land; they cannot be rooted in the vineyard unless first they are grafted into Jesus. Branches that attempt living in the land, the vineyard, which refuse to be attached to Jesus will be cast out and burned."

Also presenting is Porter Speakman, Jr., who produced the horribly biased and widely viewed film, *With God On Our Side*, that urges Christians not to assist the Israeli brutalizing of Palestinians through the support of Christian Zionism. It openly endorses replacement theology, and initially featured words concocted by Israel-hater Ilan Pappé but falsely attributed to Ben-Gurion: "The Arabs will have to go, but one needs an opportune moment to make it happen, such as war." And then there is long-time UK anti-Israel activist Ben White, who has declared, "I do not consider myself an anti-Semite, yet I can also understand why some are. There are, in fact, a number of reasons. One is the state of Israel, its ideology of racial supremacy and its subsequent crimes committed against the Palestinians."

CATC's fuels its outreach on a growing mix of toxic theology and politics – from the Kairos Palestine Document which lays all blame for Holy Land troubles on "Apartheid" Israel to the recent Bethlehem Call that Christians should not be balanced and fair, but committed only to the Palestinian cause. As for a two-state solution? Those Bethlehem conference organizers who still speak of two states have refused to acknowledge that one of them is Jewish.

Haman would be pleased.

The writers, both rabbis, are respectively the associate dean and director of Interfaith Affairs at the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

<http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/OpEdContributors/Article.aspx?id=259936>